

AF
Response under 37 CFR 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 1648
Atty. Dkt. No. P61724US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Martin Roland JENSEN et al

Appl. No.: 08/973,021

Group Art Unit 1636

Filed: January 29, 1998

Examiner Sandals

For: Method for Identification of Biologically Active Peptides and Nucleic Acids

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The instant paper responds to the Office action mailed December 5, 2000.

IN THE TITLE

Change the title to read: --Method for Identifying Biologically Active Nucleic Acids--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 71-117, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Add the following claims.

118. A method for identification of a biologically active ribonucleic acid or a cellular ligand to the biologically active ribonucleic acid, which comprises the steps of
- producing a pool of expression vectors each comprising an appropriate viral vector incorporating a synthetic totally random DNA sequence to be examined,
 - efficiently transducing the expression vectors into a number of identical eukaryotic cells to effect transduced cells in such a way that each transduced cell expresses a single ribonucleic acid encoded by the DNA sequence to be examined,
 - screening the transduced cells to see whether some of them have an altered biological function, the biological function being so selected that an observed alteration thereof in a transduced cell provides an indication that the ribonucleic acid expressed in the transduced cell affects the biological function of the transduced cell,